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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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INFORMATION November 13, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

Following is Secretary Kissinger's report to you on his last two meetings with Chou En-lai.

My visit to China ended positively with two constructive sessions with Chou, agreement on a joint communique, and a warm exchange of toasts at the return banquet that we hosted. Message on communique follows shortly.

Our two hour forty minute meeting in the afternoon covered a variety of topics, with considerable attention to bilateral questions. I rehearsed for the Prime Minister our rationale for the agreement on preventing nuclear war, drawing on your June letter to him and upon your use of the agreement during the Middle East alert; I believe their private understanding has increased. Chou was critical of Allende's rashness and Che Guevara's adverturism and, in response to my comments, in effect acknowledged China will not cause trouble in Latin America. At his own initiative Chou indicated that he would not attend the United Nations session next fall. He again praised your alert, saying that you were more courageous than Kennedy and suggesting we would have an opportunity now to increase the defense budget. Chou indicated that he would continue to educate European leaders on the strategic situation, beginning with Heath when he comes here.

On bilateral matters, Chou said that they would welcome permanent press representatives in Peking but that we have to solve the problem of sending their journalists to Washington caused by the presence of Taiwan correspondents. We had a lengthy discussion of U.S.-China trade and made major progress on the principal outstanding issue of U.S. claims and blocked assets; they are patient on MFN.

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After dinner we completed negotiations on the communique and Chou and I held a three hour restricted session on the strategic international situation.

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